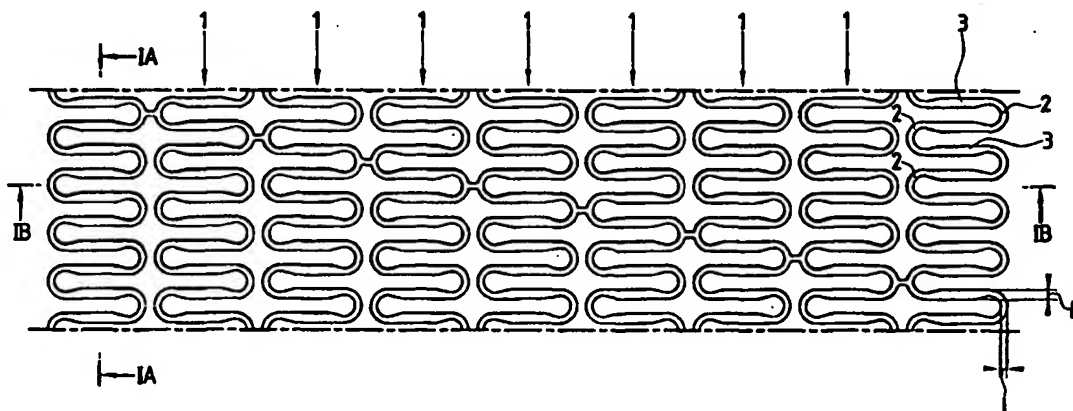




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(54) Title: EXPANDABLE STENT WITH VARIABLE THICKNESS



(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to an expandable tubular device for implantation in the lumen of a body duct, such as a blood vessel in particular, in order to ensure a passage therein, said device consisting of an assembly of tubular elements aligned along a common longitudinal axis and successively joined together in pairs by a plurality of linking members, each tubular element consisting of a strip forming a zigzag corrugation defining bent extreme portions which are successively connected together in pairs in opposite directions by rectilinear intermediate portions, the thickness (e) of said strip forming each of the above-mentioned tubular elements (1), measured radially relative to said tubular element, being greater than the width l of this strip in said bent portions (2).